

Message Text

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43

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /014 W

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R 290800Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO USDOC WASHDC

INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

SECSTATE WASHDC 6365

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, BEXP, GB, US

SUBJ: AVIATION ELECTRONICS AND GROUND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT

TRADE MISSION

CASABLANCA FOR RCAA

REF: USDOC 5724

1. ALTHOUGH RECENT IMPORTS OF AVIATION ELECTRONICS AND GROUND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT HAVE BEEN SMALL IN GABON AND ALTHOUGH FRENCH COMPANY THOMPSON CSF HAS MOST OF LOCAL MARKET, BELIEVE THAT SUBJECT MISSION SHOULD CONSIDER LIBREVILLE AS POSSIBLE SUBSTITUTE FOR KINSHASA AND IN ANY EVENT THAT MISSION MEMBERS SHOULD CONSIDER VISITING LIBREVILLE FOLLOWING MISSION.

2. GABON IS COUNTRY THAT DEPENDS ON AIRPLANES DUE TO LACK OF RAILROAD AND POOR ROAD SYSTEM. COUNTRY HAS ABOUT 120 AIRPORTS, INCLUDING THREE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS. IN ADDITION, WORK EXPECTED TO START IN SEVERAL YEARS ON NEW LARGE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT IN LIBREVILLE. THUS, BELIEVE MISSION MZBERS WILL FIND GOOD MARKET FOR THEIR PRODUCTS IN GABON.

3. WISH TO POINT OUT HOWEVER THAT PROPOSED AUGUST TIME FRAME NOT IDEAL AS GABONES NATIONAL DAY AUGUST 17 AND ALL

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GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WILL BE INVOLVED WITH THESE

CELEBRATIONS FOR AT LEAST A WEEK. IN ADDITION, MANY
FRENCH AND GABONESE TAKE VACATIONS IN AUGUST.

4. FOR AF/C. YOU MAY WISH TO MAKE AVAILABLE TO USDOC
COUNTRYMAN-DIGGS LETTER OF JULY 27, 1974 WHICH DISCUSSES LARGE
NUMBER OF COMMERCIAL AND PRIVATE AIRPLANE MOVEMENTS IN GABON.
MCKESSON

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